

## CAREFULLY DRAWN BILL.

Some Strong Arguments in Favor of the Ship Subsidy Measure.

## ADVANCEMENT OF OUR OCEAN TRADE.

Benefits to Be Derived by American Producers Through the Operation of Such System—Who the Opponents of the Bill Are—Some Significant Facts for the People.

[Special Correspondence.]

Washington, D. C., Jan. 17.

The American people have been favored (2) with a vast amount of argument, seemingly directed against the shipping bill now pending in congress, but really aimed at the effort that is now being so strenuously made to revive and build up our shipping in the foreign trade. No misstatement has been too wild, no untruth too ridiculous, no innuendo too base, no assertion of venality too absurd, to fail of use in the hands of these malignant opponents of American interests. When the shipping bill first came before congress, the suggestion was made that swift ocean steamships were what were most needed, mail carriers, vessels available as auxiliary cruisers—occasional, in short; and it was alleged that the slow cargo carriers could take care of themselves, that they needed no assistance, they were profitable under present conditions, and similar arguments.

When it was pointed out that there was reason for government aid for slow ships, carrying only cargoes, because they were at a disadvantage in cost of construction, if American-built, and at a further disadvantage in cost of operation, if run by American officers and seamen and firemen, and this truth being known, then the enemy turned right-about-face and declared that the ships that are needed to build up the American merchant marine are the cargo carriers, the vessels that take away our farm products, and not the swift passenger steamships. The enemies of the shipping bill have blown hot and blown cold, all in the same breath, and the pity is that the American people are so utterly uninformed regarding the real facts concerning American shipping—concerning any shipping—that they have been easily duped into believing the most extravagant things that mind could concoct in order to fight and defeat the passage of the shipping bill.

As a matter of fact the shipping bill is carefully drawn on the most scientific lines, drawn so as to barely enable American-built and American-manned ships to compete with foreign ships on terms of equality, and this is true of fast ships and of slow ships, of steamships and of sailing ships—of any kind of American ships engaging in the foreign carrying trade of the United States. The disadvantages they labor under, because of higher cost in construction, and because of higher cost of operation and because of the subsidies and bounties given by foreign governments to their merchant ships, have been carefully reduced to dollars and cents, and the amount of compensation provided in the bill just offsets these disadvantages. Without discussing the details of payments this truth may be relied upon, no matter what stories the enemy circulates in opposition.

And now, who are these enemies? Surely they must be those whose interests will suffer, or whose theories will be disproved, if a bill is passed sufficiently effective to encourage the construction of American-built ships. These interests and theories are the foreign shipowners, their agents in this country, and the free traders. Foreign ships now monopolize the carrying of 91 per cent. of our imports and exports, and they take away from this country fully \$150,000,000 in gold or its equivalent each year just for their freight charges. If American ships are built and put on the ocean, they will compete with these foreign ships, they will reduce the cost of carrying our farm products and our manufactures abroad, they will force a freight rate war upon the ocean that will be fierce and prolonged and during which there will be ever expanding opportunities for our people to increase their exports and secure and hold new foreign markets for their surplus products. Naturally these foreign shipping interests will fight the shipping bill to the death, and they are known to be doing it in every way in their power.

The other enemies, equally as active, and supported by those first mentioned, are the free traders. American ships upon the sea have been unprotected in operation for 40 years, and their tonnage has decreased by two-thirds, while our commerce has increased fourfold. Only by protecting our ships, as our land industries have been protected against foreign competition, can they make head against foreign ships. The free traders fear another triumph of the American protective policy. Taking advantage of this element of opposition, the foreign shipping interests are supplying the Reform club of New York with money in unlimited quantities to circulate its free-trade literature in opposition to the shipping bill. And this tells the whole story of the sources of opposition to the shipping bill.

☐ The American people are not so particular whether this or that particular bill is passed to build up American shipping, as they are that some effective measure be put upon our statutes, at once, that will accomplish this very desirable result. The people feel that it is the duty of congress to enact such a measure without further delay.

☐ "Undoubtedly there is a majority of the senate in favor of the bill," says the New York Times, in an editorial urging democratic senators to resort to every possible device to prevent a vote being taken on the bill. When the enemy is compelled to thwart the majority will, they are subverting the government to their own ends—to the desires of the minority.

☐ The great bulk of the people cannot be expected to know whether the details of this or that bill are best adapted to put American ships upon the sea in sufficient number to do American carrying. They leave that for congress to determine. But they do desire, and that unanimously and emphatically, that congress shall no longer delay doing its full duty in this respect. The people are looking for results.

☐ Official figures show that Great Britain spends each year \$3,500,000 more on her subsidies to British steamships than she gets for sea postage on British mails. The United States, on the other hand, gets \$1,500,000 more for sea postage on its mails each year than it spends in subsidies to both American and foreign steamships. And yet there are those who say that Great Britain don't pay subsidies to her ships.

## VOTING FOR SENATOR

The Two Houses of the Legislature Cast Ballots Separately.

## QUESTION OF EQUAL TAXATION

Important Subject Uppermost in the Minds of the Members of the Legislature.

Lansing, Mich., Jan. 15.—Today the two houses of the legislature met separately and voted for United States senator from Michigan for the term of six years from March 4 next. This action was taken in compliance with the statute which provides that on the second Tuesday after the convening of the legislature in years when such an election is to occur, each house shall vote separately for senator, each representative and senator rising in his place as his name is called and announcing the person of his choice.

Today's voting was, of course, strictly in line with caucus action, James McMillan receiving the vote of every Republican legislator, while the one Democratic representative cast their votes for Thomas E. Barkworth of Jackson. Early in the session it was announced that the Democrats would cast their votes for Daniel J. Campau, chairman of the Democratic state central committee, but the minority concluded in caucus that inasmuch as Mr. Campau had been honored with this complimentary vote on several previous occasions, it would be proper to pass the honor on this year. In taking this action the minority were careful to resolve that no disrespect to Mr. Campau was intended.

## Election of Senator.

The election of senator will not be an accomplished fact until high noon tomorrow for the reason that the statute provides that on the day succeeding the taking of the vote separately in the two houses, the house and senate shall meet in joint convention at 12 o'clock, noon, and again cast their ballots. Tomorrow, therefore, Senator McMillan will have had this distinguished honor conferred upon him for the third successive time.

As might be expected, in view of the numerous sessions of the last legislature at which this important question was considered, the subject of equal taxation is uppermost apparently in the minds of the members of the present legislature. It is evident that there will be no lack of ideas and bills, several of the latter having been already introduced, while others have been noticed for introduction. Senator Atwood has introduced, and has printed for the use of the committee on taxation a bill creating a commission to assess the property of railroad companies only for taxation on an ad valorem basis. In the house, Representative Chandler has had a similar course taken with a bill, which is practically a copy of the Oren bill, excepting that it creates a separate board of assessors instead of putting that duty on the tax commission, and which includes the property of railroad, telephone, telegraph and express companies. Senator Helme has another bill on this subject, as has Representative Dingley, and it is understood that still others are in the course of preparation.

## Much Pruning and Trimming.

It would be unprofitable to enter into a discussion of any of these measures at this time, for the reason that there will be a great deal of pruning and trimming before legislative sentiment settles down sufficiently to enable one to give with any degree of certainty the details of the bill that is likely to become a law. There is every reason to believe, however, that when the legislature finally squares itself away and does business in this connection, the expectations of the people of the state will be fully met.

Representative Dingley is the author of two joint resolutions proposing important amendments to the constitution. One of these has for its object the doing away with direct taxation for state purposes, the idea being to raise all money required by the state by specific taxation, leaving all direct taxation to be levied by the municipalities for their own needs. Governor Bliss called attention in his inaugural message, it will be remembered, to the desirability of devising some means to increase the receipts of the general fund of the state, arguing that under the present arrangement increased specific taxation bids fair to make the primary school fund very top-heavy. In offering this proposition to amend the constitution, Representative Dingley is carrying out the instructions of his constituents, the Kalamazoo board of supervisors, who, at a recent meeting, adopted a resolution urging that this change be made.

## Salary of \$1,000 a Term.

The other Dingley measure to which reference was made proposes a constitutional amendment relative to the pay of members of the legislature. It is proposed to substitute for the present per diem system a term's salary of \$1,000, with no extra compensation for legislators from the upper peninsula. Years ago when railroad facilities were not what they are now, upper peninsula legislators found it necessary to remain at the seat of government practically from one end of the session to the other, and because of this extra expense which was not entailed upon the other legislators, a bill was passed at every session allowing the former an extra \$2 per day. It has become more and more difficult to pass this bill of late years, the measure furnishing more opportunities for vote dodging than almost any other that comes up during the session. A bill making this provision was introduced last week, and an effort was made to pass it under a suspension of the rules, but an objection sent it to the judiciary committee, where it still remains.

The people of the state will doubtless be pleased to learn that there is quite a discussion on the part of the legislature to economize in various lines. The number of employees in each house has been reduced somewhat, not

a great deal to be sure, but enough to make the situation appear hopeful. Aside from this the house, by a unanimous vote, decided that members of committees visiting state institutions in the course of their official duties shall be allowed merely their "actual and necessary expenses" as the law provides, instead of a mileage allowance as in previous years. It is figured that this will result in a very material saving. Inasmuch as the resolution by which this saving was effected was offered by Chairman Dingley of the ways and means committee, which committee will have the scrutinizing of all bills carrying appropriations, it is believed that last week's action is but a part of the programme of economy to be adhered to throughout the session.

## Pay for Publishing Laws.

Ex-Auditor General Dix made recommendations in the line of economy in his retiring report, his idea being that the constitutional provision allowing each newspaper that publishes the general laws enacted at any special session of the legislature shall be entitled to \$15 be abrogated. Of course, it is only when very little legislation is enacted at a special session that the newspapers can afford to avail themselves of this provision, and on such occasions the sum total of allowances is about \$7,000. The several special sessions during the past two years have entailed quite an expenditure in this connection, and doubtless prompted the ex-auditor's recommendation. General Dix also suggested that the allowance to newspapers for publishing the annual tax sales be reduced, although he did not say what the figure should be.

A craze for state normal schools seems to have taken possession of various communities. Up to a very few years ago Michigan boasted only one of this class of institutions. Now it has three, and the numerous testimony of the state is that the state has need for several more. If it hopes to bring the qualifications of its teachers up to the standard of neighboring states.

## For Additional Normal Schools.

Already three bills providing for additional normal schools have been noticed, and the session is very young. Senator Kelly would have one established at Muskegon in connection with the manual training school, the belief being that the state could acquire without cost the valuable property occupied by the latter. Representative Sharpe, of Iosco, has a bill to establish a school in northeastern Michigan, and Representative Lingers, of Holland, has one providing for a school in western Michigan, preferably, of course, at Holland. It would not be surprising if another normal school were provided for this winter, but that will doubtless be the limit even if all bills do not fail.

James Russell, of Marquette, whose term as commissioner of mineral statistics expired with the year, has subjected himself to considerable criticism by taking the position in his annual report that this office has not lived its usefulness and should be abolished. His critics insist that the recommendation would have more weight if made at the commencement of his term of office instead of at its close. Two years ago the legislature made an appropriation for a Michigan exhibit at the Pan-American exposition to be held in Buffalo this year, but in the closing days of the session when Governor Pingree was swinging his veto ax with great frequency and accuracy, he put the measure to sleep.

## Exhibit Can Be Prepared.

Notwithstanding the short time remaining before the time for the opening of the exposition, it is believed that a creditable exhibit can be prepared, and Representative Chandler has introduced a bill making an appropriation of \$100,000 for this purpose. This was more money than the introducer of the bill thought would be needed, and with his consent the committee in charge of the measure has cut the amount to \$50,000.

At the time Governor Pingree was exercising the pardon authority a couple of weeks ago, much talk was indulged in relative to restricting the powers of the governor in this respect, some persons even advocating the extreme step of amending the constitution so as to deprive the executive of this power altogether and placing it in the hands of a board. Representative Burns, of Grand Rapids, who served some time as a member of the present board, has introduced a bill on this subject which he hopes will lead to a successful issue. The measure abolished the present board of four members and a secretary who is not a member, and substitutes therefor a board of three members, the secretary to be a member of the board. One of the members is to be a practicing physician and another a lawyer in active practice. For the compensation of \$5 per day for not to exceed six months in any two years, the Burns bill provides an annual salary of \$2,500 for each member of the board and requires that the latter shall devote their entire time to the duties of the office.

## Puts a Curb on the Executive.

While the present constitution places the power to grant clemency solely in the hands of the governor, the right is reserved to the legislature to stipulate the manner in which application for pardon shall be made. The bill takes advantage of this constitutional provision to put a curb on the executive. It provides that all applications for either pardon, parole or commutation of sentence shall be made in writing to the governor, and that he shall have authority to recommend clemency. The governor cannot, according to the provisions of this bill, grant clemency to any convict who has not made such written application to the board. This is designed to prevent the wholesale granting of pardons on the spur of the moment. In case of life prisoners unanimous action of the board is made necessary for recommendation. It should not be understood that any attempt is sought to provide that the governor cannot pardon unless the board recommends, for that would be unconstitutional. It is simply a step in the direction of preventing the chief executive from making a dash any day he chooses and liberating a job lot of convicts who have never even thought of applying for release. It surrounds the executive with all the restrictions possible under the constitution, some think that it even treads somewhat upon that ancient and honored document.

JAMES V. BARRY.

## HE BECAME EXCITED

Defendant Death Gives the Lie to a Police Witness.

## PROSECUTION'S EVIDENCE IS IN

Death Objected to a Statement That He Made a Confession to the Police of the Crime Against Jennie Bosschier.

Paterson, N. J., Jan. 16.—With an array of expert evidence to show the cause of death, the admission of statements made by the police that one of the defendants made a confession of the crime and a sensational interruption of one of the witnesses by one of the prisoners, Prosecuting Attorney Emley Tuesday night announced that the case of the state against Wm. A. Death, Andrew Campbell and Walter L. McAllister, three of the four men accused of murdering Jennie Bosschier, was complete.

The greater part of the day was occupied with the testimony of the medical experts, the most important of whom was Dr. Andrew F. McBride, the county physician, who performed the autopsy on the body of the girl and declared that she came to her death from the effects of "some poison," and Prof. Rudolph S. Witthaus, a chemist, who made a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the stomach of the girl and detected the presence of chloral hydrate in sufficient quantities to show that death had resulted from the administering of this drug. A number of detectives and policemen were put upon the stand to tell of the arrest of the prisoners. Detective Sergeant McInerney, who drove over the route with the hackman Schultorpe, and found the bottle near the body, was testifying to a statement made to him by Death on the night of his arrest, or rather in the early morning. He was saying: "I went to Death's cell and asked him if he had any relations with the girl, and he said: 'You lie, you lie.'"

His counsel pulled him down, and after evidence was given by several other detectives, Death was summoned to the stand. He told of his arrest and of a number of questions put to him by the police, but he stepped down from the stand without stating what it was he told the police. Judge Dixon then admitted the evidence of the policemen, in which they said Death had confessed.

Wm. Perry, a policeman, told of a different confession made to him by Death. He said the young man had stated to him that McAllister had put the drug into the girl's wine glass two or three times.

Dr. Cyrus Townsend, to whom the four men took the girl when they first returned to Paterson, told of his examination of the girl and of his pronouncing her dead. The other witnesses examined were Daniel McShane of the prosecutor's office, who had possession of the bottle found by the dead girl; Dr. Wm. L. Vroom, coroner for Bergen county, who was notified of the discovery of the body and who made an examination; Tunis Vermeulen, the undertaker who embalmed the body; Dr. E. W. Todd and Dr. Thurber, of Paterson, who corroborated Dr. Vroom's evidence; Dr. Calvin Terriery and Dr. W. H. Newman, who were present at the autopsy; Chief of Police Gaul, Detective Sergeant John H. Taylor, and Detectives Titus and Lord, who corroborated the statements the other officers made as to the confessions made by Death.

Topeka, Kas., Jan. 16.—Gov. Stanley Tuesday night announced that he would offer a reward of \$500 for the apprehension of anyone implicated in the lynching of Alexander at Leavenworth. The governor further stated that he was sorry that he could not offer a larger reward, but the law allows him to offer only \$500. He said that he was also going to instruct the attorney-general at once to instruct the conduct of Sheriff Everhardy in connection with the lynching, and if it was found that the sheriff had in any way violated his trust as an official, proceedings would be instituted to oust him from office.

## In a Dangerous Position.

Port Townsend, Wash., Jan. 16.—The German ship Flottbek, Capt. Shoemaker, 34 days from Yokohama, is aground among the breakers two miles south of Ozette island, off the coast near Flattery rocks. The vessel is in a most dangerous position and stands every chance of becoming a total wreck. A powerful tug has been sent to her assistance. The Flottbek is an all steel, full-rigged ship of 1,861 tons, and was bound for Tacoma to load a cargo of wheat for the United Kingdom.

## Murder and Attempted Suicide.

Anniston, Ala., Jan. 16.—E. K. Shaw killed his wife by cutting her throat, and attempted suicide in the same manner. The couple were under guard at a restaurant on a charge of swindling when the tragedy occurred. A letter was found addressed to Mrs. J. E. Smith, Crown Point, Ind., stating that Shaw left to her all his personal effects, some property in Florida and a \$3,000 policy of insurance. He will be held on a charge of murder.

## Senator Frye Re-elected.

Augusta, Ga., Jan. 16.—The two houses of the legislature voted for United States senator Tuesday. In the house Senator Wm. P. Frye, republican, received 107 votes, and Swasey M. Staples, democrat, 13. In the senate Mr. Frye received 24 and Mr. Staples 1. The joint convention will meet today at noon to endorse the work of the two bodies.

## HARLAN'S CONFIRMATION.

Senator Pettigrew Objects Thereto in Executive Session.

Washington, Jan. 16.—While the senate was in executive session Tuesday an effort was made to secure confirmation of the nomination of Mr. James S. Harlan, son of Justice Harlan, of the United States supreme court, to be attorney-general for Porto Rico, but the action was prevented by the objection of Senator Pettigrew.

Sensors Foraker and Spooner united in an appeal to Mr. Pettigrew to withdraw his objection, saying that Mr. Harlan is an excellent lawyer and an accomplished gentleman and would fill the place as acceptably as any one who could be named.

Mr. Pettigrew responded that he had no doubt of Mr. Harlan's personal fitness for the position for which he had been named, and added that he had no personal objection to him. His opposition, he said, was based on higher grounds. He then recited the fact of the nominee's relationship to Justice Harlan and declared that the nomination is entirely out of place in view of the fact that important litigation affecting the position to which he is appointed is now pending before the court of which the father is a member. "I make no charge against the supreme court," said Mr. Pettigrew, "but I do say that the appointment of the sons of two of the members of that court to important positions under the administration at this juncture of affairs in the supreme court is, to say the least, indecent." He referred in this connection to the nomination of Justice McKenna's son to the office of major in the army, saying that in giving him this place he had been promoted over 118 other lieutenants and captains. Mr. Pettigrew also commented upon the report of Major Harrison, son of the ex-president, intimating that this action was occasioned by the fact that the attitude of Mr. Harrison's father on the question of our relations to our insular possessions was not in accord with the administration's course in those matters.

Mr. Pettigrew said he had no doubt that Mr. Harlan would be confirmed, but he added that a yea and nay vote would be necessary to that accomplishment, and for that reason it would be necessary to have a quorum present when the nomination should be acted upon.

Senator Foraker replied briefly, again referring to Mr. Harlan's qualifications and expressing the opinion that the administration would have the support of Justices Harlan and McKenna without conferring favors upon their families. There was no quorum present and the senate adjourned without action.

## HAS NO EFFECT.

Clayton-Bulwer Treaty on the Right to Construct Nicaragua Canal.

Washington, Jan. 16.—Senator Morgan has introduced a resolution declaring that the non-effect of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty upon the right of the United States to construct the Nicaragua canal. The resolution cites the protocol with Nicaragua and Costa Rica as a preamble, and then proceeds as follows:

"Resolved, That the Clayton-Bulwer treaty of July 4, 1850, gives no right to Great Britain to demand that the congress of the United States shall withhold its ratification of said agreements or shall abstain from legislation to provide for their prompt execution."

"That the ratification by Great Britain of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty of Feb. 5, 1900, as the same has been amended in the senate is not a condition precedent to legislation by congress in providing for the execution of said agreements with Costa Rica and Nicaragua; nor are the principles or provisions of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty any just or admissible ground of objection on the part of the government or her Britannic majesty to the enactment of a law by congress providing for the execution of such agreements with Costa Rica and Nicaragua."

## The Neely Case.

Havana, Jan. 16.—Mr. Lamar, who is associated with Mr. Rubens in the prosecution of the postoffice fraud cases for the government, says that with the exception of some evidence which Mr. Rubens will bring from the United States, especially what is contained in the Laws report, the government is now ready to proceed with the trial of C. F. W. Neely, charged with embezzlement while acting as financial agent of the department of posts. Neely has already been indicted by the court of first instance and on his arrival here, under the extradition proceedings, he will be imprisoned to await trial before the Audiencia. Seven judges will sit in the case. Spanish law allows an appeal to the supreme court, but the decision of the latter tribunal is final.

## Not Difficult to Deal With.

London, Jan. 16.—The Daily Telegraph, which assumes that the cabinet council Friday will discuss the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, expresses the opinion that, if the United States government presses for the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty in the "usual diplomatic manner," it will not find the British government difficult to deal with.

## To Decide Place of Encampment.

Cleveland, Jan. 16.—The national council of administration of the G. A. R. have been invited to meet in this city on the 21st, when they will decide where this year's national encampment is to be held. At that time a formal invitation to hold the encampment in this city will be tendered them.

## Everything Quiet.

Panama, Colombia, Jan. 16.—The arrival here of the United States cruiser Philadelphia has not caused any commotion. The official relations are very cordial and there are no unusual political comments. Everything is quiet here. The revolutionists have dispersed into the interior.

## IN CONGRESS.

The Senate Made Good Progress With the Army Bill.

Washington, Jan. 16.—Some progress was made by the senate Tuesday in the consideration of the army reorganization bill. One amendment that has created much debate was disposed of and a tacit agreement has been reached for a "vote very soon."

Mr. Cockrell, of Missouri, Tuesday emphasized his opposition to the increase in the army proposed by the bill, and his intention to vote against it, but expressed his opinion that the bill ought to be disposed of speedily. Mr. Sewall, of New Jersey, also urged speedy action on the measure on account of the serious embarrassment the government was laboring under in preparing for the return of the volunteers from the Philippines.

The principal speeches against the bill were made by Mr. Berry, of Arkansas; Mr. Bacon, of Georgia, and Mr. Teller, of Colorado. Mr. Warren, of Wyoming, delivered an extended argument in support of the bill. During the speech of Mr. Bacon a colloquy between him and Mr. Hanna, of Ohio, as to the issues in the November elections created much interest. Mr. Bacon's amendment, striking out of the bill the discretionary authority conferred upon the president to increase the size of the army, was laid on the table by the decisive vote of 39 to 20.

At 5:50 p. m. the senate adjourned. The house spent another day on the river and harbor bill without completing it. Twenty-six pages were disposed of. The friends of the bill successfully resisted all attempts to load down the bill with new projects and only one or two unimportant amendments were adopted. The western members labored unsuccessfully to secure an entering wedge for their pet scheme for the reclamation of the arid lands, but received only very limited support.

Speaker Henderson called the house to order with a gavel presented by Col. McCaskey, Twentieth infantry, U. S. A., who is stationed at Fort Santiago, Manila. The gavel is part of the official flagstaff of the Philippine islands, from which the Spanish colors were lowered and upon which those of the United States were hoisted on the day of the surrender, Aug. 13, 1898.

The senate resolution to appropriate \$7,000 to enable the secretary of the senate to pay the expenses of the inauguration of the president and vice-president March 4 was called up and precipitated a lively discussion because it did not recognize the house as a participating factor in the inauguration ceremonies.

Mr. Dalzell (Pa.) insisted that the house should be recognized.

Mr. Hepburn (Ja.) declared that the installation of the vice-president was strictly a senate affair. The ceremony in the senate, he said, always had been made the occasion of discourtesy to the house. He was in favor of the house confining its participation strictly to the ceremonies in connection with the inauguration of the president on the portico on the east front of the capitol.

The resolution was re-committed with instructions to report back a resolution providing for inaugural ceremonies under the auspices of a joint committee of the senate and the house.

The house then resumed consideration of the river and harbor appropriation bill.

Without completing the bill the house, at 5:05 p. m., adjourned.

## The Bowman Act Claims.

Washington, Jan. 16.—Rep. Mahon, of Pennsylvania, from the war claims committee, reported to the house a bill recommending an appropriation of \$1,310,498 for the payment of claims under the Bowman act. These claims are for stores and supplies furnished the government during the war. The amount also includes payment for the findings of the Selfridge board, the money being due to contractors for the construction of ships during the war. An effort will be made by the committee to secure early consideration of the Gibson bill appropriating \$335,484 for claims allowed under the "Bowman act."

## Danish West Indies Sale.

Copenhagen, Jan. 16.—The Danish government has sent to the finance committee of both houses of the rigsdag a report of the negotiations between the United States and Denmark regarding the sale of the Danish West Indies, and also a petition, signed by 17 business men of Copenhagen, asking for government assistance to make the islands profitable to Danish capital. The syndicate proposes, if their petition is favorably entertained, to expend money in improvements and in developing the islands. This proposition may delay the sale, but it is not likely that the rigsdag will make further sacrifices.

## Declared a Dividend.

New York, Jan. 16.—The directors of the Federal Steel Co. have declared a dividend of 5 per cent on its common stock for the year 1900, payable Feb. 20. No action was taken regarding an amendment to the constitution permitting future dividends to be paid quarterly.

## GENERAL MARKETS.

## Detroit Grain Market.

Wheat—No. 2 red, 79½¢; May, 82¢. Corn—No. 2, 39¢. Oats—No. 2 white, 28½¢. Rye—No. 2, 53½¢. Beans—March, \$2.07.

## Chicago Grain Market.

Wheat—February, 74½¢; May, 77¢. Corn—February, 36½¢; May, 38½¢. Oats—May, 24½¢. Pork—May, \$14.27. Lard—February, \$7.47; May, \$7.60.

## Chicago Live Stock.

Cattle—Good to prime steers, \$5.30 @ 6.00. Hogs—Higher, \$5.25 @ 5.30. Buffalo Live Stock. Cattle—Lower, \$5 @ 7.80. Hogs—Higher, \$4.70 @ 5.25. Sheep—Strong, \$4.50 @ 5.50; lambs, \$5.90 @ 6.